Only the Government of Madhya Pradesh has reported drought during south-west monsoon period of 1988, as per details given below:

No. of distt. affected	...	3
No. of villages affected	...	3484
Population affected	...	19.30 lakhs
Cropped area affected (more than 50%)	...	6.35 lakh ha.

(b) State-wise details of ceilings of expenditure approved so far to the States affected by floods of 1988 are given in the Statement (*See* below). The memoranda received from other flood affected States as well as from Government of Madhya Pradesh for drought relief are under process.

(c) Presently there is no proposal under consideration of Government of India for creation of a permament relief fund.

Statement

Ceiling of expenditure approved for floods of 1988

(Rs. in crores)

State	Ceilings approved
Andhra Pradesh	28.76
Assam	85.36
Gujarat	27.02
Haryana	31 04
Jammu and Kashmir (1st Wave)	13.55
Kerala	10.55
Sikkim (Including Earthquake)	8.49
West Bengal	23.56

Increase in the prices of pulses

1108. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item as reported in the 'Hindustan Times' dated the 30th September, 1988 under the caption 'Prices of foodgrains and all pulses varieties go up;

(b) if so, whether the prices of all pulses are soaring high; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and steps Government propose to take to make pulses available at a reasonable price through PDS?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) to (c) The news-item published in the 'Hindustan Times' of 30th September, 1988 indicated prices of several essential commodities including pulses being sold at Super Bazar, Delhi compared with the prices prevailing in Karol Bagh, New Delhi. The prices of pulses in general have been high and some of them exhibited a rise during September, 1988 due to shortfall in production on account of drought in 1987, lean season, and disruption in supplies on account of floods and heavy rains in some areas.

The Government has taken a number of measures to contain rise in the prices of essential commodities including pulses. The main thrust of the Government policy has been to increase production of various essential commodities particularly of those like pulses which are in short supply. Although pulses are not supplied by the Union Government through Public Distribution System, some State Government have distributed pulses under their public distribution system. To augment the domestic supplies, Government has allowed import of pulses under Open General Licence and its export has also been banned. From time to time, the Chief Ministers and Lt. Governors have been urged to enforce strictly the provisions of the

Essential Commodities Act, Storage (Control) Order and other similar legislations against hoarders, blackmarketeers and anti-social elements.

Prosecutions launched against the offenders under the enforcement of bonded Labour (Abolition) Act

1109. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Centre have asked the State Governments to furnish information about the prosecution launched against the offenders under the Enforcement of Bonded Labour (Abolition) Act;

(b) if so, whether any State Government have since furnished detailed report in this regard; and

(c) what other measures the Union Government propose to take to effectively implement the Act in the country to get Bonded Labourers freed?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Apart from urging the State Governments to conduct surveys for identification of bonded labour, the Central Government have also introduced a scheme for involvement of voluntary agencies in the task of identification and rehabilitation of bonded labour. In addition, whenever any complaint regarding bondage is brought to the notice of the Central Government, the same is sent to the State Government concerned for necessary action, since the responsibility for identification, release and rehabbilitation of bonded labour rests with the State Governments.

Necessity for collaboration with Pepsi-Co

1110. SHRI T. R. BALU:
SHRI DIPEN GHOSH:
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) reasons why a foreign collaboration was found necessary for aerated waters, when CFTRI, Mysore and others have the know-how; and

(b) reasons why the growth potential in the softdrink market cannot be filled by new or old Indian softdrinks, without foreign collaboration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) The approval for the project of Punjab Agro-Pepsi-Co was given after considering in details the integrated package proposed for foods and beverages and the benefits it would confer on the Punjab farms and the national economy.

Violations of building byelaws

1111. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item appeared in the 'Patriot' dated 22nd October, 1988 wherein it has been stated that a dangerous trend is being followed by many high rise builders and promoters in the capital these days blatantly violating the unified building bye-laws;

(b) if so, the nature of violations which have come to the notice of Government; and

(c) what steps are being taken to check these violations and action taken against the builders and promoters violating bye-laws?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The report in the 'Patriot' in its issue of 22nd October, 1988 had referred to illegal occupation of three buildings 24, Barakhamba Road, 28 Barakhamba Road and Nehru Place Hotel.

New Delhi Municipal Committee has reported that in respect of 22, Barakhamba Road (and not 24, Barakhamba Road as was reported in the newspaper) and 28, Barakhamba Road, a part of the building had been occupied without obtaining the